

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Also Meeting As  
STATE BOARD FOR VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room  
John A. Hannah Building  
608 West Allegan  
Lansing, Michigan

November 18, 1999  
1:00 p.m.

Present: Mr. Arthur E. Ellis, Chairman  
Mrs. Dorothy Beardmore, President  
Dr. Herbert S. Moyer, Secretary  
Mrs. Sharon A. Wise, Treasurer  
Mrs. Sharon L. Gire, NASBE Delegate  
Mrs. Marianne Yared McGuire  
Mr. Michael David Warren, Jr.  
Mrs. Eileen L. Weiser  
Mr. Scott Jenkins, representing Governor John Engler, ex officio

Absent: Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus, Vice President

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ellis called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

- A. Report of the Superintendent - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C, Infants and Toddlers - added to agenda
- B. Report of the Superintendent - 1999-2000 Michigan State Board of Education Summer Institutes - added to agenda
- C. Report of the Superintendent - National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate Subsidy - added to agenda
- D. Report of the Superintendent - Report on Property Transfers - added to agenda

**Mrs. Wise moved, seconded by Mrs. Beardmore, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority, as modified.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: McGuire, Straus**

**The motion carried.**

III. AGENDA MATERIALS

- A. Revised Report on the Consent Agenda - Memorandum dated November 18, 1999, from Superintendent to the Board

IV. INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS PROVIDED TO THE BOARD

- A. Update on Activities at the Michigan Schools for the Deaf and Blind, and Camp T - Memorandum dated November 17, 1999, from Mr. Alexander G. Davlantes, Administrative Officer, to the State Board of Education
- B. Information on Michigan Department of Education Wellness Action Team Earning Healthy Workplace Award from Governor's Council - Memorandum dated November 18, 1999, from Superintendent to the Board

V. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS AND GUESTS

Mrs. Eileen Hamilton, Administrative Secretary to the State Board of Education, introduced the members of the Board and guests attending the meeting.

VI. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES AND RECEIPT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS/MINUTES

**Mrs. Beardmore moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education approve the minutes/actions of the meeting of October 20-21, 1999.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: McGuire, Straus**

**The motion carried.**

VII. APPROVAL OF MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2000

Mrs. Beardmore said the Board briefly discussed the meeting schedule for 2000 at the October 21, 1999, meeting, and there was consensus for Mrs. Eileen Hamilton, Administrative Secretary to the Board, to identify possible dates for the 2000 calendar year. She said with the exception of January, April, June, August, and December, the meeting dates will once again fall on the third Thursday of each month.

In response to Mrs. Gire, Mrs. Beardmore said the proposed meeting dates do not conflict with National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) or other pertinent conferences, or holidays.

Mrs. Wise and Mrs. Weiser said they will not be able to attend the January 13, 2000, and the February 17, 2000 State Board of Education meetings respectively because of scheduling conflicts.

Mrs. Weiser said interest has been expressed in coordinating a Board retreat with NASBE in 2000, and she asked that discussion be held between the Chairman and the Board President to establish that date so Board members may arrange their schedules accordingly.

**Mrs. Gire moved, seconded by Mr. Warren, that the State Board of Education adopt the meeting schedule for calendar year 2000, as attached to the Administrative Secretary's memorandum dated November 3, 1999.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: McGuire, Straus**

**The motion carried.**

Mrs. Beardmore said because the Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room will soon undergo renovation, the December 16, 1999, and the January 13, 2000, meetings will be held off-site. She said the December meeting will probably still be located in Lansing, but an invitation has been received to hold the January meeting in Macomb County. She said there are also tentative plans for the following months: April - Berrien County; and September - North East Lower Peninsula.

#### **VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

- A. Mr. Fred Kline, Society for Excellence in Education Students and Taxpayers United, 80 East Hancock #1514, Detroit, Michigan 48201. Mr. Kline offered comments regarding the benefit of good behavior as it affects achievement, and the deadline for eligibility for a public school to receive out of district students and receive state aid for them.
- B. Mr. Robert Cooper, Foreign Language Immersion and Cultural Studies School, 8210 Cameron, Detroit, Michigan 48211. Mr. Cooper offered comments regarding the Foreign Language Immersion and Cultural Studies School, and the following students demonstrated their skills in Japanese, French, and Spanish for the Board: Ms. Carla Rivers, Ms. Loren Hollier, Ms. Asari Offiong, Ms. Kortni Malone, Ms. Zoe Smith, and Mr. Michael Tomlin-Crutchfield.

IX. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Ms. Judith Pasquarella, Manager, Drug Education Grants, Office of Drug Control Policy, Department of Community Health, introduced Dr. Saturnino Rodriguez, Deputy Superintendent, Lansing Public Schools; Mr. Walker Beverly, Principal, Otto Middle School; Ms. Margie Betz, Teacher, Otto Middle School; Ms. Irene Meyer, Parent Coordinator, Peer Mediation Program, Otto Middle School; and Ms. Mary Zeineh, Parent, and said she was honored to address the Board and present the United States Department of Education Safe and Drug-Free Schools Award to Otto Middle School, Lansing Public Schools. She said representatives from the school recently attended the Safe and Drug-Free School Recognition Program in Salt Lake City, Utah where they were one of nine schools nationwide to receive an award from Mr. Richard Riley, United States Secretary of Education. She said this program entails a stringent application and review process, and Otto Middle School was able to document and demonstrate success over a period of time.

Ms. Pasquarella said the program at Otto Middle School is titled “The Peace Connection Works Program” which emulates a mentor program linking the students in the elementary, middle, and high schools. She said during the first six months of their program, there was a 14% drop in school detention, two thirds of the teachers stated that they felt much safer in the school than they had the year before, and 70% of the students who used peer mediation reported a change in the climate in the school. She said the program is primarily funded by Title IV Safe and the Drug Free Schools Community Fund with additional support received from the City of Lansing and other Ingham County agencies.

On behalf of Mr. Darnell Jackson, Director, Office of Drug Control Policy, the State Board of Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Ms. Pasquarella said she was pleased to present the Award of Excellence to the Otto Middle School, Lansing Public Schools as a Recognized Safe and Drug-Free School.

Mr. Beverly accepted the award on behalf of Otto Middle School, and said part of the thrust to assist students has been to utilize as many resources as possible to achieve success, and said he believes Otto Middle School is on the right track to accomplish that goal. He thanked Mr. Ellis and the Board for the recognition, and said it has been an honor representing Michigan in this award program.

Ms. Zaineh said she is a mother of six children who each attended Otto Middle School, and even though they did very well academically, some people did not perceive it as a safe place to be. She said she has noticed a difference in the climate of the building since her older children went through the school, and now she no longer feels the need to apologize for sending her children there.

Ms. Betz said it was quite exciting to receive the award in Salt Lake City, and represent the State of Michigan.

Ms. Meyer said she has been the peer mediation coordinator at Otto Middle School for the last four years, and has watched the program evolve from simply an idea into a successful program. She said at the beginning of the program, students had to be recruited, but she has just finished speaking to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, and received 155 volunteers.

Dr. Rodriguez said he was honored to represent the Lansing Public School District Administration at the meeting. He said the Department and Lansing Public Schools are neighbors and friends and it is the goal of the district to offer the best programs available to the students being served.

X. APPROVAL OF SELECTION CRITERIA FOR CONTINUATION  
COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL REFORM DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM  
GRANTS

Ms. Dorothy VanLooy, Director, Office of Field Services, provided information and responded to questions from the Board regarding the criteria for continuation comprehensive school reform demonstration program grants. She said the Board approved the criteria and the state application for the comprehensive school reform demonstration program grant at the July 1, 1998, meeting. She said it is important to note the grant awards are given to individual school buildings, not to the school district, and that Title I is the primary source for the funds, with a small portion received from the Fund for the Improvement of Education.

Ms. VanLooy said the main purpose of the grant is to allow schools to adopt a research based comprehensive school improvement model which has already been proven in another school district. She said seventeen models were already in existence when the legislation was passed, but that number has increased since that time.

Ms. VanLooy said Title I and the Fund for Improvement of Education require eligibility restrictions of either at least a 50% poverty rate and low student achievement or a 50% poverty rate and high student achievement. She said most of the funds are going to high poverty, low achieving schools, but a portion of the funds are going to high poverty, high achieving schools.

Ms. VanLooy identified the following nine criteria which are part of the legislation establishing the grant: (1) effective, research-based methods and strategies for student learning, teaching, and school management; (2) comprehensive design with aligned components for instruction, assessment, classroom management, professional development, parental involvement, and school management; (3) high-quality and continuous professional development and training; (4) measurable goals and benchmarks for student achievement of the core academic curriculum standards; (5) support by school faculty, administrators and other staff; (6) parental and community involvement in planning and implementing school improvement activities;

(7) high-quality external technical support and assistance from a comprehensive school reform entity; (8) strategies to evaluate the implementation of the Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration program, and the student results achieved; and (9) coordination of federal, state, and local resources to support and sustain the school reform.

Ms. VanLooy said the grant program was written for three years because it is not reasonable to expect results after only one year and the model needs time to be fully implemented. She said the National Model Developers were invited to Michigan to conduct workshops for school districts regarding the available models, respond to questions, and offer an exchange of information with school district personnel. She said school districts were allowed four months after the application deadline to continue work with the model developers, decide which model to adopt, and make the necessary commitments for implementation.

Ms. VanLooy said 33 of the 141 schools which applied for the grants received awards on June 10, 1999. She said the primary aspect of the criteria to receive second year funding is the demonstration of progress and a commitment to statements made in the application, with some contingencies for additional projects.

Mrs. Beardmore said there are many schools in Michigan which suffer from high poverty levels and students succeed despite many obstacles which could affect their learning. She asked if data will be available after the second year indicating why some schools succeed and others do not and what improvements have been made since the grant was received. In response, Ms. VanLooy said staff will certainly do what they can to bring that information to the Board, but she could not say if the hard data would make that evident.

In response to Mrs. Gire, Ms. VanLooy said the program includes a plan for an evaluation component to review improvements accomplished by low achieving school districts.

**Mrs. Gire moved, seconded by Mr. Warren, that the State Board of Education approve the criteria for continuation Comprehensive School Reform Demonstration Program grants as described in Attachment B to the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 3, 1999.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: Straus**

**The motion carried.**

## XI. DISCUSSION REGARDING SCHOOL SAFETY

Mr. Ellis introduced Mr. Don Weatherspoon, Director, Office of Safe Schools; Ms. Edith Harsh, Assistant Attorney General in Charge of Education; and Dr. Mathew Seeger, Associate Professor, Wayne State University, Department of Communication. He said Mr. Weatherspoon, Ms. Harsh, and Dr. Seeger will provide an overview of the mandated requirements of the school safety legislation.

Mr. Weatherspoon thanked Mr. Ellis and the Board for the opportunity to present this information, and said the Office of Safe Schools was officially established on October 1, 1999. He said Ms. Harsh will provide an extensive report regarding the legislation and resulting mandates imposed on the Superintendent and the Department.

Ms. Harsh said four bills have recently been enacted pertaining to safe schools, three of which set out specific obligations on the part of the State Board, the Superintendent and the Department. She said Public Act 102 of 1999, also known as House Bill 4240, was signed into law on July 6 and added section 1308 to the Revised School Code. She said this statute directed the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Director of State Police, and the Attorney General to adopt, publish, and distribute a statewide school safety information policy to school boards, county prosecutors, and local law enforcement agencies no later than 90 days from the signing of the bill. She said it was a tremendous task resulting in much interagency cooperation, and statewide meetings with representatives from school districts, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, and the courts to seek input on what would work at the local level. She said the packet was distributed by the October 4, 1999, deadline to the Board, local and intermediate school districts, law enforcement agencies, and the courts. She said school districts were provided with an electronic version to enable the reproduction of the response guide. She said local communities, school boards, and law enforcement agencies must now develop a school safety information policy for their districts. She said some districts have already begun.

Ms. Harsh said section 1310 of Public Act 102 contains some reporting obligations for the Office of Safe Schools regarding expulsion provisions for students who commit a physical assault against another student. She said it is the responsibility of the parent or student expelled under this section to locate and enroll in a suitable educational programs. She said the Office of Safe Schools is required under this provision to compile information and catalog existing alternative education programs, and list the schools that may be available to individuals who are expelled under these provisions. She said the Office of Safe Schools is also required to work with and provide technical assistance to school districts which are either authorizing bodies for public school academies or other parties which are interested in developing alternative education programs in geographic areas that are not now being served. She said any school district that chooses to establish an alternative education program must notify the Office of Safe Schools of their program and the types of pupils they intend to serve.

Ms. Harsh said under section 1310a of the same statute, at least annually each school board must prepare and submit a report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction in a form and manner prescribed by the Superintendent reporting the number of students expelled from the district during the immediately preceding year with a brief description of the incident that caused the expulsion. She said at least annually each school board should also report to the Superintendent of Public Instruction in the form and manner prescribed by the Superintendent any incidence of crime occurring within the school district. She said in determining the form and manner of this report, the Superintendent by statute is required to consult with local and intermediate school districts, and law enforcement officials. She said reporting under this provision is required to include at least any crimes involving physical violence, gang related activities, illegal possession of a controlled substance or controlled substance analogue, trespassing and property crimes including vandalism. She said the report should also include an estimated cost to the district for the property crime.

Ms. Harsh said Public Act 104 of 1999, also known as Senate Bill 206, contains additional expulsion provisions which apply to students who are found to have physically or verbally assaulted either a school employee or school volunteer, or someone who has contracted with the school. She said under this provision, it is the responsibility of the student and/or his or her parents to locate and enroll in an alternative education for the student. She said the Office of Safe Schools, again in language almost if not the same language as the previous statute, is required to catalog and compile information on existing alternative education programs. She said this compilation will be periodically distributed to the school districts which may then share it with the expelled student and/or his or her parents. She said the assessment will also work with school districts to provide technical assistance to school districts, authorizing bodies, public school academies, and other interested bodies who are interested in providing alternative education programs for these types of students in geographic areas which are not currently being served.

Ms. Harsh said the Department under that statute is required to develop and distribute to all school districts a petition for reinstatement to be used by a parent or individual once he or she seeks reinstatement to public education.

Ms. Harsh said Public Act 23 was signed into law in May 1999 and amended numerous provisions of the Revised School Code. She said section 1311 is a provision under that public act which provides similar requirements on the Department in developing and distributing a petition for reinstatement to be used by parents whose children have been expelled under a different provision of the Code than referenced before. She said this deals with students who are primarily expelled for possession of a weapon or for criminal sexual conduct. She said the same requirements are imposed on the Office of Safe Schools to compile and catalog information with regard to alternative education and to provide technical assistance.



Ms. Harsh said section 1311b of the Revised School Code establishes a strict discipline academy which is subject to the leadership and general supervision of the State Board of Education. She said section 1311c states that the State Board of Education no later than the effective date of the statute, and at least annually thereafter, submit a comprehensive report with findings and recommendations to the House and Senate Committees on Education. She said the report is to evaluate and determine if strict discipline academies are fulfilling the purposes specified. She said the statute provides that the report should contain a number of items relevant to a strict discipline academy such as mission statement, attendance statistics, and drop out rates.

In response to Dr. Moyer, Ms. Harsh said she believes an analysis of the strict discipline statute and subsequent requirements would be necessary to determine how a student would receive admittance into an academy of that nature.

Mr. Ellis said by the definition of the law, there are no strict discipline academies currently in the state of Michigan, but he is aware of some programs in the Southeastern corner of the Lower Peninsula, and the Upper Peninsula under development.

In response to Mrs. Beardmore, Mr. Weatherspoon said staff is in the process of reviewing past and present bills to determine any duplication or contradiction.

In response to Dr. Moyer, Ms. Harsh said school districts historically and by statute have always been responsible for providing a safe environment for their students, and she thinks that the statewide school safety information policy will become a matter of sharing information and providing tools to school districts.

Mr. Weatherspoon said there is very little in terms of alternative education available to students currently, and staff are looking into how to provide assistance to school districts in developing these programs. He said one of the requirements of the new legislation is that the Department must provide reporting forms for crimes and incidents beginning January 2000 so that a database may be established. He said the Board may recall that the Department has begun to develop an education warehouse which will include several fields to handle the data and cataloging requirements of the statute. He said the forms for reporting the data and the method which is to be submitted to the Department have not yet been developed.

Mr. Weatherspoon said other states have experienced a problem integrating educational and criminal data, and therefore, he has been in contact with the Michigan State Police. He said it appears that Michigan will utilize summary data similar to informal crime reports. He said expulsion guidelines vary from school district to school district, so it is necessary to establish a uniform set of definitions that the Department will be able to use when cataloging the data once received. He said it is hoped that something is in place by January 2000 because districts must report to parents each semester and to the state annually. He said other agencies are also

involved in similar data collection regarding expulsions so the amount of paperwork involved is a concern. He said Ms. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent for Administrative and Support Services, has been asked for direction regarding interagency collaboration.

Mr. Weatherspoon said an outside vendor will be utilized in establishing a clearinghouse of information as mandated by law. He said the system will allow limited access to law enforcement agencies to obtain certain pieces of information.

In response to Mrs. McGuire, Mr. Weatherspoon said there is nothing currently in place which would provide tracking for students who have been expelled to ensure their education continues. He said he believes it will be possible, however, once the clearinghouse is established.

Dr. Seeger said his principle research interest for the last 20 years has been in organization crisis, crisis planning, and risk and crisis communication. He emphasized that he is not an expert in school safety, and is learning much from this presentation. He said he has studied crisis communication, post crisis communication, and a variety of perspectives for many years, and feels that there is a lot of good information to be drawn from.

Dr. Seeger said as a crisis researcher, he views these initiatives as critically important, and the fact that some Michigan districts did not have a crisis plan in place before the Safe Schools Initiative is a little disconcerting. He said districts that have experienced some traumas in the past are more likely to have plans in place, but there are many which probably do not. He said prevention and planning are the primary means for reducing crisis induced threat, and the process of putting in place a plan clearly reduces the risk of a crisis occurring and improves the chance of a correct response.

Dr. Seeger said risk cannot be eliminated, and sooner or later another school related crisis will occur which may involve student violence, fire, natural disaster, a transportation accident, food born illness, or something entirely unforeseen. He said schools are highly complex and interdependent systems which can from time to time experience radical breakdowns, and in the process, inevitably, cause serious harm.

Dr. Seeger said these events are very dramatic and cause extreme stress to the participants, families, and communities. He said administrators or even crisis managers often make poor decisions in the face of a crisis which often exacerbate the situation. He said by laying out a careful well-thought out response in a non stressful context, the chances of an appropriate and comprehensive reaction during the stress of a crisis are much enhanced.

Dr. Seeger emphasized that crisis planning and risk management are not a one step process. He said once the plan is in place, it must be regularly updated and maintained. He said having a plan that is outdated and poorly maintained is probably

worse than having no plan at all. He said it would be nice to think that once these plans are complete they can simply be put on the shelf and will be there when needed, but that is not the way it works. He said personnel and/or area codes change, and in the midst of a crisis, valuable time is lost because the wrong number is dialed.

Dr. Seeger said staff has begun to develop a survey questionnaire that will be circulated to assess district compliance. He said the survey will determine who is involved in the crisis plan, the principle authors, methods used in the development of the plan, the scope of the plan, methods of maintaining the plan, significant features of the plan, and new training programs that may be undertaken.

Dr. Seeger extended an invitation to school districts to send their plans to Wayne State University. He said university staff will collect and process the data, and provide a summary/critique of those plans. He said he will consult with Mr. Weatherspoon to identify aspects of the plans judged as most critical for the establishment of this assessment.

Dr. Seeger said Mr. Weatherspoon and he have discussed the development of press kits as a means of ensuring community awareness which is a critical step in the implementation of the crisis plan.

In response to Mrs. Gire, Mr. Weatherspoon said the clearinghouse entails more than just model prevention programs. He said a Department of Management and Budget process must be followed to contract with a vender who will in turn be equipped to do both the statistical research and the literature review as well. He said a number of other states are following the same pattern so it is also important to review their findings.

Mrs. Beardmore distributed a series of clippings regarding the topic of school safety. She said all of the articles are recent, and therefore, it is obviously an issue that people are very aware of and the organizations and groups that deal with schools and children are looking for guidance. She said the legislation directs some approaches, but not everything that could be done. She said the guidelines developed and distributed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Attorney General, and Chief of State Police focused on what to do after an event has occurred rather than steps for prevention. She said in her opinion the Board should address the issue of prevention and intervention as well.

Mrs. Beardmore said she has also distributed to the Board a two-page memo dated November 12, 1999 regarding School Safety Issues. She said because Michigan can boast of a very strong interagency focus, and there are many programs already in place, she would like staff on the Putting It Together with Michigan Families (PIT Crew) to determine how those programs may be organized to better serve schools in the prevention and early intervention of school violence.

Mr. Warren thanked Mr. Weatherspoon, Ms. Harsh, and Dr. Seeger for the presentation, and said it has been very helpful in understanding the legislative mandates, the clearinghouse, and how it will assist schools in dealing with violence. He said a recent article published in the Detroit News mentioned that many students left their classrooms in Detroit and walked to the administration offices to discuss the danger of walking to school in Detroit. He said it is incredulous that students would be forced to take that action out of fear of being attacked walking to school. He said the legislation reacts to an already existing problem, but does not address prevention. He said children should feel safe at school, and be able to focus on learning.

Mr. Warren said the presentation and discussion with the Board by Ms. Brenda Welburn, Executive Director, National Association of State Boards of Education, earlier in the day suggested the Board unite on an issue that would make a difference in the daily lives of children. He suggested that the Board explore honor codes, extracurricular activities, character education, civics, student conduct, parental involvement, workshops, and distance learning which he feels can make a difference to students.

Mrs. Gire said she recently spoke with some students who had visited with President Bill Clinton in Washington D.C. and had actually drafted a resolution for Congress. She said the resolution helped students achieve a sense of direction. She wondered if possibly something similar could be duplicated in Michigan. She said the Board may want to start a dialogue with the Legislature regarding working together to provide prevention opportunities as opposed to having victims and children who must be dealt with as perpetrators.

Mrs. Beardmore said she would agree that working with the Legislature is a key component, but other steps are also necessary. She said she thinks the Board can proceed with reviewing the existing programs. She said the Board has or will receive two reports from NASBE regarding the difficulty and importance of principals in the schools, and social issues for the 21st Century. She said the research has shown the importance of students feeling a sense of connectedness, that they belong, and that somebody cares if they are there or not.

Dr. Moyer said he agrees with Mrs. Beardmore, and feels that the Board has taken this on in a variety of ways, such as character education, peer listening, peer mediation, and conflict resolution. He said professional organizations could be a natural resource and provide input in the implementation of the clearinghouse concept.

Mr. Warren said he thinks the Legislature is a key component, but as Ms. Welburn said, there are many stakeholders involved such as the Governor's office, the Legislature, local and intermediate school districts, and parents who he feels should be engaged in the process. He said it is important to receive information regarding the components currently in operation before the Board implements any initiatives.

Mr. Jenkins thanked Mr. Weatherspoon, Ms. Harsh, and Dr. Seeger for their information, and said this process actually began many years ago. He said in many cases, it is difficult for law enforcement, prosecutors, the judicial system, and school districts to communicate. He said it is common for two or three law enforcement agencies to cover a school district, and a prosecutor may have twelve or more school districts within their jurisdiction.

Mrs. Weiser said many people are working diligently on this issue trying to bring about a collaborative and conclusive way of approaching it. She suggested that because of his law and her legislative experience, Mr. Warren and Mrs. Gire should work with staff to determine the Board's role in this process.

**Mrs. Beardmore moved, seconded by Mr. Warren, that the State Board of Education direct staff involved with the Putting It Together with Michigan Families, (PIT Crew) to assess programs which are currently in place and how they may be organized in a more effective way to assist school districts and families in dealing with school violence.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: Straus**

**The motion carried.**

**Mrs. Gire moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise that the President of the State Board of Education initiate discussion with the Legislature regarding the State Board of Education's priorities.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: Straus**

**The motion carried.**

**Mr. Warren moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education establish a subcommittee of the State Board of Education consisting of Mr. Warren and Mrs. Gire, charged with dealing with the issue of school safety to present information and policy proposals to the State Board of Education.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: Straus**

**The motion carried.**

## XII. REPORT ON CONSENT AGENDA

### Criteria

- D. Approval of Criteria for the 1999-2000 Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Program
- E. Approval of Criteria for the 1999-2000 Parent Involvement and Education Grants
- F. Approval of Additional Criteria for the 1999-2000 Federally-Funded Child Care and Development Fund Grants for the School-Age Child Care
- G. Approval of Criteria for the 1999-2000 Competitive Grants for Full-Day Services in Michigan School Readiness and Head Start Programs

### Reports

- H. Receive the Periodic Review/Program Evaluation Status Report on the Andrews University Teacher Preparation Program
- I. Receive the Periodic Review/Program Evaluation Status Report on the Spring Arbor College Teacher Preparation Program
- J. Receive the Report on the 1997-98 Michigan School Readiness Program, the State-Funded Preschool Program for Four Year Olds At-Risk of School Failure

### Appointments

- K. Appointment of a Committee of Scholars to Review a Request to Establish a Law School to be Known as Ave Maria School of Law
- L. Appointment of Members to State Board of Education Advisory Groups

**Dr. Moyer moved, seconded by Mrs. Wise, that the State Board of Education approve the items listed on the consent agenda as follows:**

- C. (removed from consent agenda and placed under discussion items)
- D. **approve the criteria for the 1999-2000 Christa McAuliffe Fellowship Grant, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 15, 1999;**
- E. **approve the criteria for the 1999-2000 Parent Involvement and Education Grants, as described in the Superintendent's revised memorandum dated November 10, 1999;**

- F. approve the additional criteria for the 1999-2000 Federally-Funded Child Care and Development Fund Grants for School-Age Child Care, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 3, 1999;**
- G. approve the criteria for the 1999-2000 Competitive Grants for Full-Day Services in Michigan School Readiness and Head Start Programs, as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 3, 1999;**
- H. approve the Andrews University Professional Education Unit until the next full Periodic Review/Program Evaluation review (2004), as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 10, 1999;**
- I. approve the Spring Arbor College Professional Education Unit until the next full Periodic Review/Program Evaluation review (2004), as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 3, 1999;**
- J. receive the Report on the 1997-98 Michigan School Readiness Program, the State-Funded Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children At-Risk of School Failure, as outlined in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 10, 1999;**
- K. approve the appointment of the individuals listed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 3, 1999, to serve as a Committee of Scholars to review a request to operate the Ave Maria School of Law with authority to grant a Juris Doctorate Degree; and**
- L. (1) re-appoint to the Periodic Review/Program Evaluation Council Carole Ames for a four-year term ending June 30, 2003; (2) appoint to the Periodic Review/Program Evaluation Council Jerry Robbins and Sondra Jackson for four-year terms ending June 30, 2003, and Chery Wagonlander to fill an unexpired term ending June 30, 2000; (3) approve a new at-large category of membership for the Periodic Review/Program Evaluation Council to be filled by a nominee from the State Board of Education; (4) appoint to the Periodic Review/Program Evaluation Council James Hendricks for a four-year term ending June 30, 2003; and (5) appoint to the Professional Standards Commission for Teachers Kathleen McKinley and Jeremy Hughes to fill unexpired terms ending June 30, 2000, as discussed in the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 12, 1999.**

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Beardmore, Gire, McGuire, Moyer, Warren, Weiser, Wise**  
**Absent: Straus**

**The motion carried.**

**XIII. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

**Reports**

- M. Report on Personnel Status
- N. Report on Administrative Rule Waivers
- Z Report on Property Transfers

**Grant Awards**

- O. 1999-2000 Learn and Serve Michigan Grant
- P. 1999-2000 Learn and Serve Michigan Capacity Building Grants
- Q. Mathematics and Science Centers
- R. 1998-99 Funding for Career and Technical Education Programs - Technical Assistance Program Grant
- S. 1999-2000 Funding for Career and Technical Education Programs - Technical Assistance Program Grants, Career Development and Leadership Organization Grants, Corrections, Education Grants, Career and Technical Teacher Education Grants
- T. 1999-2000 Funding for Career and Technical Education Programs - Career and Technical Education Follow-Up Survey
- U. 1999-2000 Funding for Career and Technical Education Programs - Michigan Career, Curriculum, and Technical Education Center
- V. Child Care and Development Fund Grant Program for Three-Year-Old Children, the Three-Year-Old Preschool Program
- W. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C, Infants and Toddlers



- X. 1999-2000 Michigan State Board of Education Summer Institutes
- Y. National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Candidate Subsidy Grants

Mr. Ellis provided an oral report on the following:

- A. Michigan Department of Education Budget Process

Mr. Ellis said that at the October 21, 1999 meeting the State Board of Education requested information regarding the Department's budget process. He said staff is prepared to make a presentation at the January 13, 2000 meeting, on not only that process, but the school aid fund as well. He said it is common knowledge that there is a surplus in the school aid fund, however, it is not available for expenditure until the Legislature takes action to appropriate it.

Mr. Warren said the Board has a constitutionally charged responsibility to provide the Legislature with recommendations for funding.

Mr. Ellis said effective January 1, 2000, several Michigan Department of Education programs will be transferred to other departments, and he has no intention of risking the failure of those programs by holding back the funds currently attached to them. He said reviewing the budget is a very time consuming task and in order for any new initiatives to happen, the money will have to come from the Legislature, and have the support of the Governor's office. He said he is confident that goal will be accomplished.

- B. The Superintendent's Intention to Retire

Mr. Ellis said that barring any action by the State Board of Education, he intends to retire effective October 31, 2000. He said the Board currently operates on decisions made approximately 30 years ago relative to its authority over the Superintendent. He said there is now an opportunity to establish new guidelines which may be in place for the next 10 to 15 years because there is only one controlling mechanism in the law and constitution, and that is the Board's authority to decide who will act as Superintendent of Public Instruction.

XIV. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

- A; Strategic Initiatives for the State Board of Education - Mr. Michael David Warren, Jr.

Mr. Warren said he feels the Board should reassess its four priorities which were adopted at the April 15, 1999 State Board of Education meeting, as suggested by Ms. Brenda Welburn, Executive Director, National Association of State Boards of Education at the Committee of the Whole meeting earlier in the day.

Mrs. Beardmore said the Board typically receives a report after the first year regarding the strategic initiatives which would be April, 2000.

- B. The National Center for Family Literacy - Mrs. Eileen Weiser

Mrs. Weiser said she runs a small public foundation called the McKinley Foundation which acts as a catalyst for innovative community projects. She said they have been involved with the National Center for Family Literacy (NCFL) for the past year, and she extended an invitation to the Board to attend one or both of the two sessions being offered in February. She said the sessions are an effort to combine preschool children with adults and a literacy effort to ingenerationally change the culture of the family to value learning. She said the statistics that NCFL has on employment and the success of children who are disadvantaged as they move through K-12 are very encouraging.

- C. Mr. Howard Adelman - Mrs. Sharon Gire

Mrs. Gire said Mrs. Beardmore and she recently attended a conference in which Mr. Howard Adelman provided an impressive presentation regarding information and strategies in how to move beyond barriers that keep some children from learning. She said she would like Mr. Adelman to make a presentation to the Board regarding this subject and feels that it fits in quite nicely with the Board's initiatives.

Mrs. Beardmore said Mr. Adelman is currently working for the University of California - Los Angeles (UCLA) in a federally funded program that has been in existence for many years. She said before it was federally funded, it was operating from UCLA, but once it had the federal funding, it could be disseminated throughout the nation. She said it is focused very much on acknowledging the things that interfere with a student's learning, and that it is possible to remove some of those barriers or find ways of coping with them so that students can proceed to be successful.

XV. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Board members were asked to submit agenda items for the November meeting to the Administrative Secretary. Mr. Ellis said Department staff, the Board President, and Vice President would be meeting within the next couple of weeks to develop and finalize the agenda.

XVI. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. December 16, 1999
- B. January 13, 2000
- C. February 17, 2000
- D. March 16, 2000
- E. April 13, 2000

XVII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Herbert S. Moyer  
Secretary